

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 9-28, 31-35 and 38-43 are pending in this application.

By this amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 10, 20, 23 and 32, and have added new claims 44 and 45.

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103:

Claims 1-3, 9-12, 18-25, 31-34 and 38-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,999,721 to Ollis et al. (“Ollis”). Claims 4-6, 13-17, 26-28 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ollis in view of allegedly applicant admitted prior art. Claims 1, 10, 20, 23 and 32 are drafted in independent form.

Applicants’ invention, as defined by amended claim 1 is directed to a system for integrating a plurality of short-range communication protocols, the system comprising:

a signaling protocol for enabling an enhanced host controller to share use of an RF transceiver between a plurality of communication modules using a plurality of short-range communications protocols,

wherein the signaling protocol comprises,

a first parameter, which indicates currently enabled ones of the communication modules of the plurality of communication modules to which a host command may be directed, and

a second parameter, which indicates a priority order for sending the host command to each of the enabled ones of the communication modules indicated by the first parameter.

Applicants respectfully submit that, at the very least, Ollis fails to teach or suggest the feature of “a second parameter, which indicates a priority order for sending the host command to each of the enabled ones of the communication modules indicated by the first parameter”, as required by amended claim 1. In one exemplary embodiment disclosed by Applicants, if the Bluetooth, LEE MAC and RFID stacks are enabled, the priority order of the second parameter may indicate sending the host command to the RFID stack first, the LEE MAC stack second and the Bluetooth stack last. (See, e.g., Specification, p. 25, paragraph 52, lines 5-8) In contrast, Ollis simply selects one of a plurality of wireless transfer mechanisms to use to connect to a destination wireless computing device or uses multiple wireless transfer mechanisms to redundantly transmit the same information to the same destination wireless computing device. (See, e.g., Ollis, col. 7/lines 31-46) Thus, Ollis fails to teach or suggest the priority order feature of Applicants’ amended claim 1.

Applicants also wish to take this opportunity to note that the claimed feature of shar[ing] use of a transceiver between a plurality of communication modules” as recited in amended claim 1 is simply not inherent in the Ollis reference. Clearly, each wireless transfer technology disclosed in Ollis may use its own transceiver, and nothing in Ollis teaches or suggests that two or more of those wireless transfer technologies share antennae 109 of wireless computing device 100.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is allowable over Ollis.

Claims 10, 20, 23 and 32, as amended, contain features similar to those found in amended claim 1, and thus, are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Dependent Claims:

Applicants have added new dependent claims 44 and 45.

Claim 44 recites “[t]he system of claim 1, wherein the host command is received from a Bluetooth host.” Support for this claim may be found, e.g., in FIG. 2 of the instant application.

Claim 45 recites “[t]he system, of claim 1, wherein the currently enabled ones of the communication modules include each of a Bluetooth, a LEE MAC and an RFID communication module and the priority order of the second parameter indicates, sending the host command to the RFID communication module prior to sending the command to either the LEE MAC communication module or the Bluetooth communication module, and sending the host command to the LEE MAC communication module prior to sending the command to the Bluetooth communication module. Support for this claim may be found, e.g., on page 25, paragraph 52, lines 5-8 of the instant application.

The foregoing dependent claims recite features believed to be patentable over the prior art of record.

Applicants do not believe it necessary at this time to address the rejections of the dependent claims as Applicants believe that the foregoing places the independent claims in condition for allowance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to address those rejections in the future should such a response be deemed necessary and appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this Application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

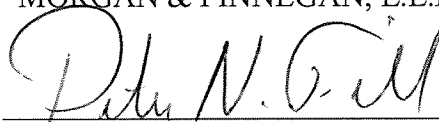
AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4136.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4136.

Respectfully submitted,
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